SILVER STAR
ISSUE #6
PC
"For the NEW Era in Comics"
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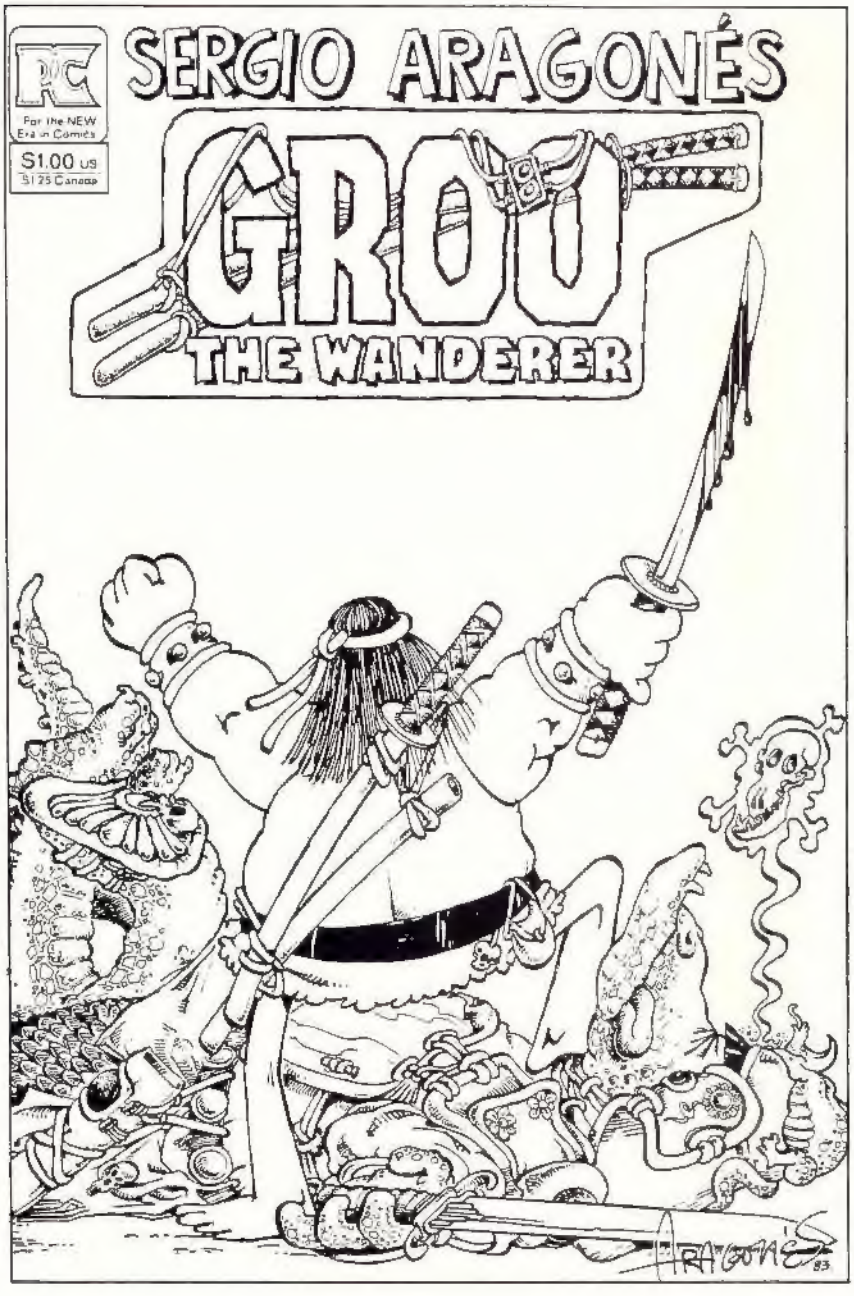
HE WAS MAN'S ONLY HOPE OF STOPPING "THE ANGEL OF DEATH!!"
THE NEXT BREED
SILVER STAR
KIRBY & THIBODEAUX

Issue #6



ON SALE NOW!

Silver Star, Vol. 2, No. 6, January, 1984. Published by Pacific Comics. Bill Schanes and Steve Schanes, Publishers. David Scroggy, Editorial Director. Steve Schanes, Art Director. Paul Tallerday, Production Coordinator. Tony Frutti, Production Artist. Jon Hartz, Kevin Montano, and Ken Krueger, Circulation Managers. Chris Schanes, Proofreader. Office of Publication: 8423 Production Avenue, San Diego, California 92121-2278, U.S.A., (619) 566-3290. *Silver Star* is ©1983 by Jack Kirby. Nothing in this magazine may be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission from the copyright holders. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead persons or institutions is intended, and any such similarity that may exist is purely coincidental. *Silver Star* (including all prominent characters featured in this magazine and their distinctive likenesses thereof) is ©1983 by Jack Kirby. "Last of the Viking Heroes" is ©1983 Mike Thibodeaux.
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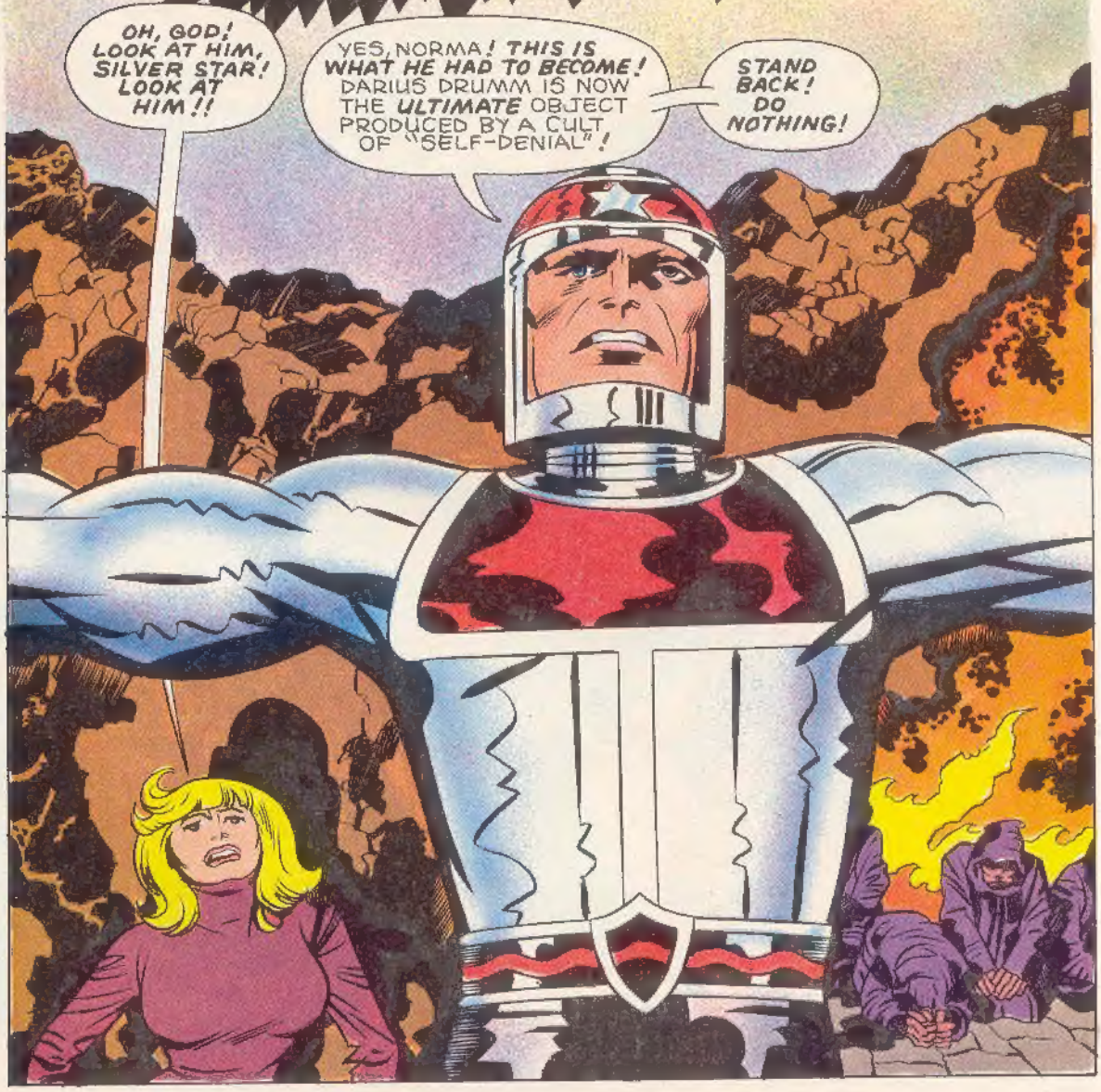
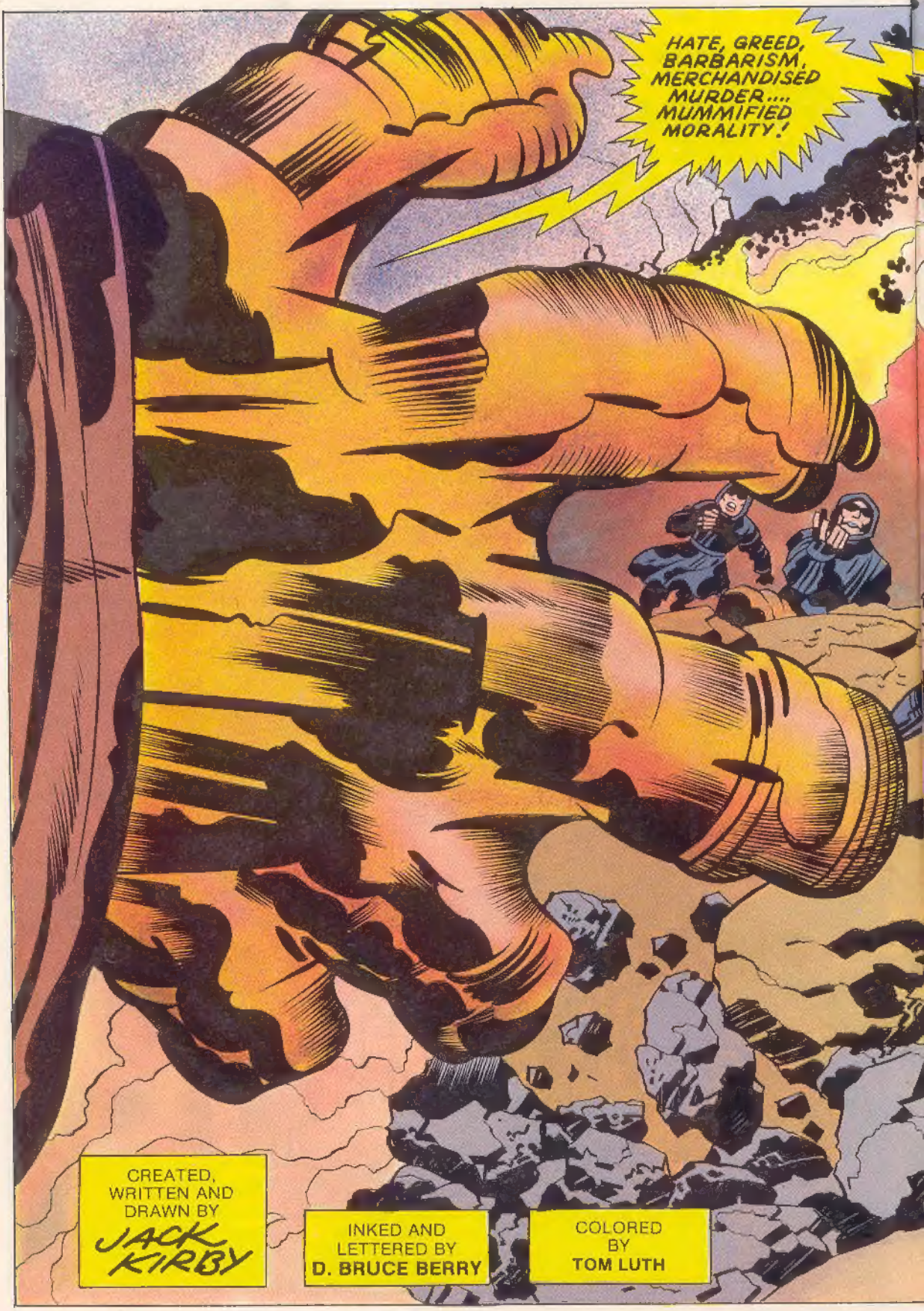
SUPPOSE WE'RE ALLOWED NO CHOICE IN DESTROYING OUR WORLD....
SUPPOSE IT'S DECIDED BY A "SUPER-NORMAL"!

SILVER STAR

BATTLES

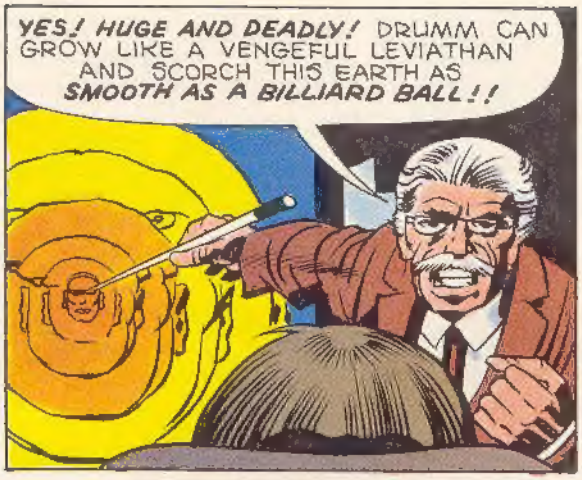
THE ANGEL OF DEATH!

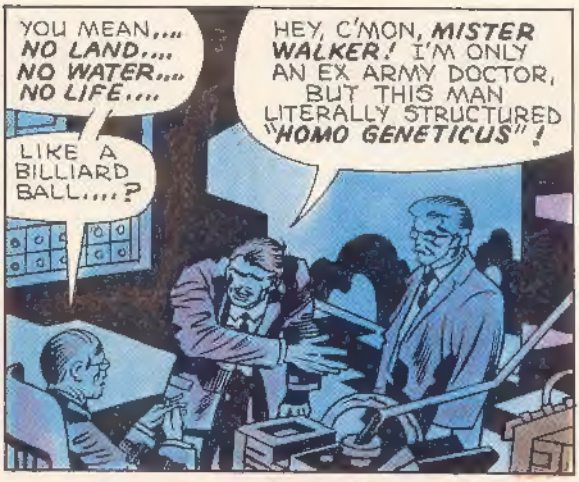

OH, GOD! LOOK AT HIM, SILVER STAR! LOOK AT HIM!!
YES, NORMA! THIS IS WHAT HE HAD TO BECOME! DARIUS DRUMM IS NOW THE ULTIMATE OBJECT PRODUCED BY A CULT OF "SELF-DENIAL"!
STAND BACK! DO NOTHING!


HATE, GREED, BARBARISM, MERCHANDISED MURDER.... MUMMIFIED MORALITY!
CREATED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY
INKED AND LETTERED BY D. BRUCE BERRY
COLORED BY TOM LUTH

ALL THESE CHARGES, AND *MORE*, HAVE I JUDGED YOU BY! *I*, AS YOUR *JUDGE*, ROSE IN YOUR MIDST.... A WITNESS TO THIS *UNCHANGED* CORRUPTON!
IF *THAT* ISN'T AN "EXIT" CUE, THEN I'VE NEVER HEARD ONE!
BUT, WE ARE THE CLEANSED! YOUR FAITHFUL!
OUR *AGONIES* ....WE BORE THEM AS *YOU* SAID!

LIES! LIES! BENEATH YOUR PAIN AND ANGUISH, YOUR EVILS STRAIN AT THE LEASH!! AS YOUR JUDGE, I'VE OBSERVED.... AS MANKIND'S EXECUTIONER.... I ACT!!!
ZWOOSSH!


YES! HUGE AND DEADLY! DRUMM CAN GROW LIKE A VENGEFUL LEVIATHAN AND SCORCH THIS EARTH AS SMOOTH AS A BILLIARD BALL!!


YOU MEAN,... NO LAND.... NO WATER.... NO LIFE....
LIKE A BILLIARD BALL....?
HEY, C'MON, MISTER WALKER! I'M ONLY AN EX ARMY DOCTOR, BUT THIS MAN LITERALLY STRUCTURED "HOMO GENETICUS"!

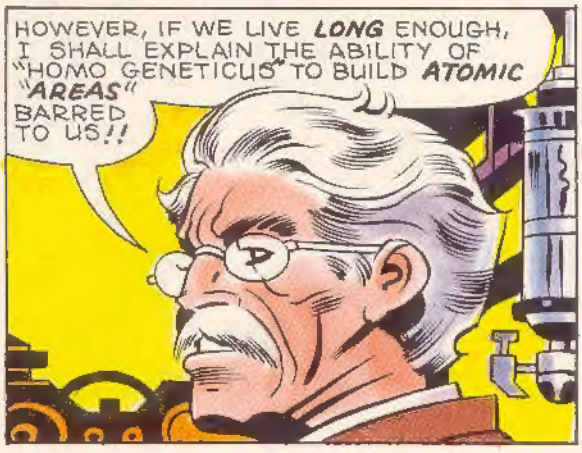
YOU'VE READ THE REPORTS IN YOUR OWN DEPARTMENT! WE'VE GOT A SUPER-NORMAL WHO'S ALIVE AND WELL AND NUTTY AS A FRUITCAKE!
YES, YES. BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW HE MAY INDULGE HIMSELF IN THIS SPECIFICALLY UNIQUE CAPER?

I TOLD HIM SO! DRUMM IS ON HIS WAY! IT'S DOOMSDAY PLUS ONE!!!

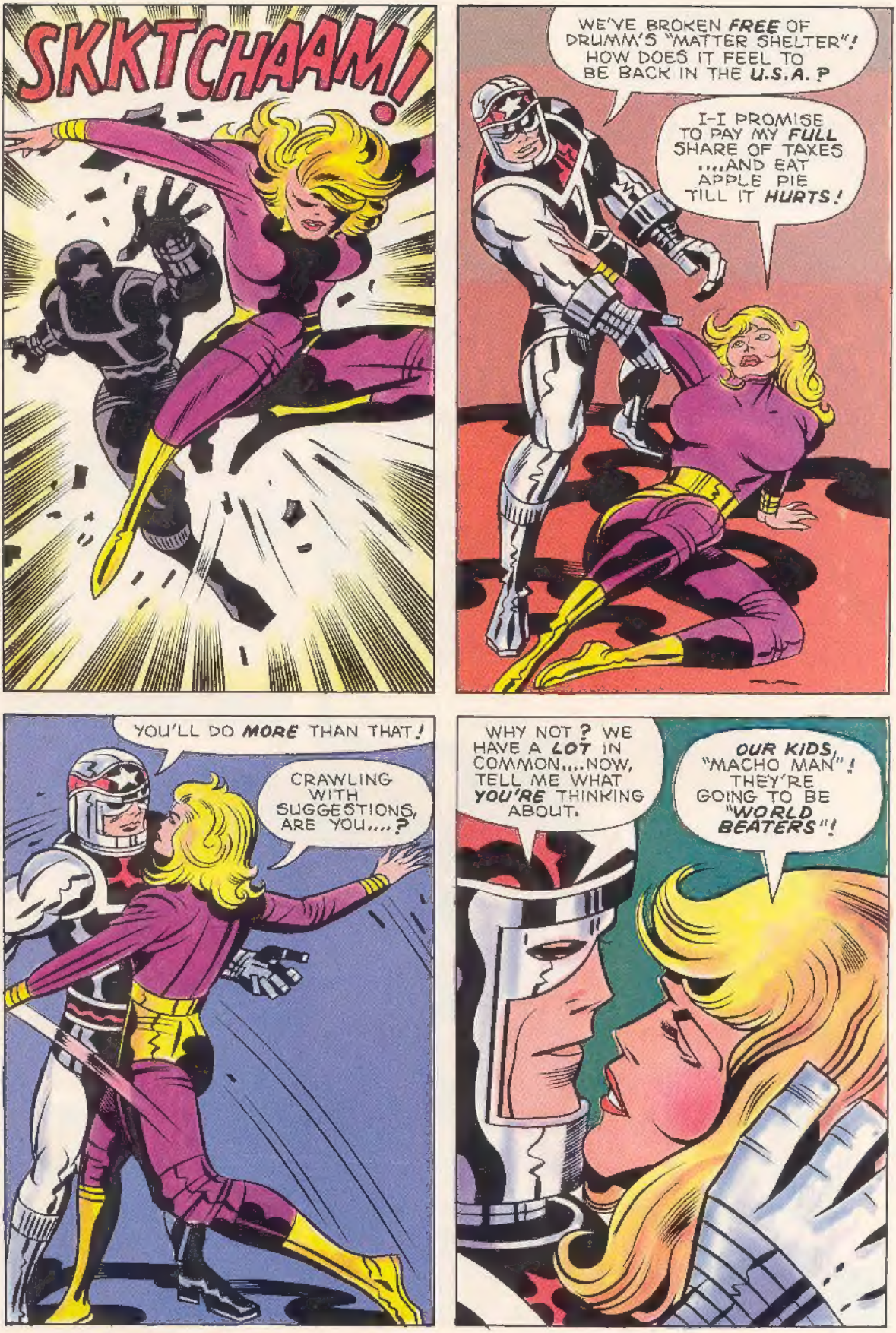
I'LL DO THE BEST I CAN, DAD! BUT, IT'S GONNA BE HELL....TRYING TO STOP THE ANGEL OF DEATH!!

BRADFORD, CAN DRUMM REALLY....?
PRAY, HAMMER, PRAY!

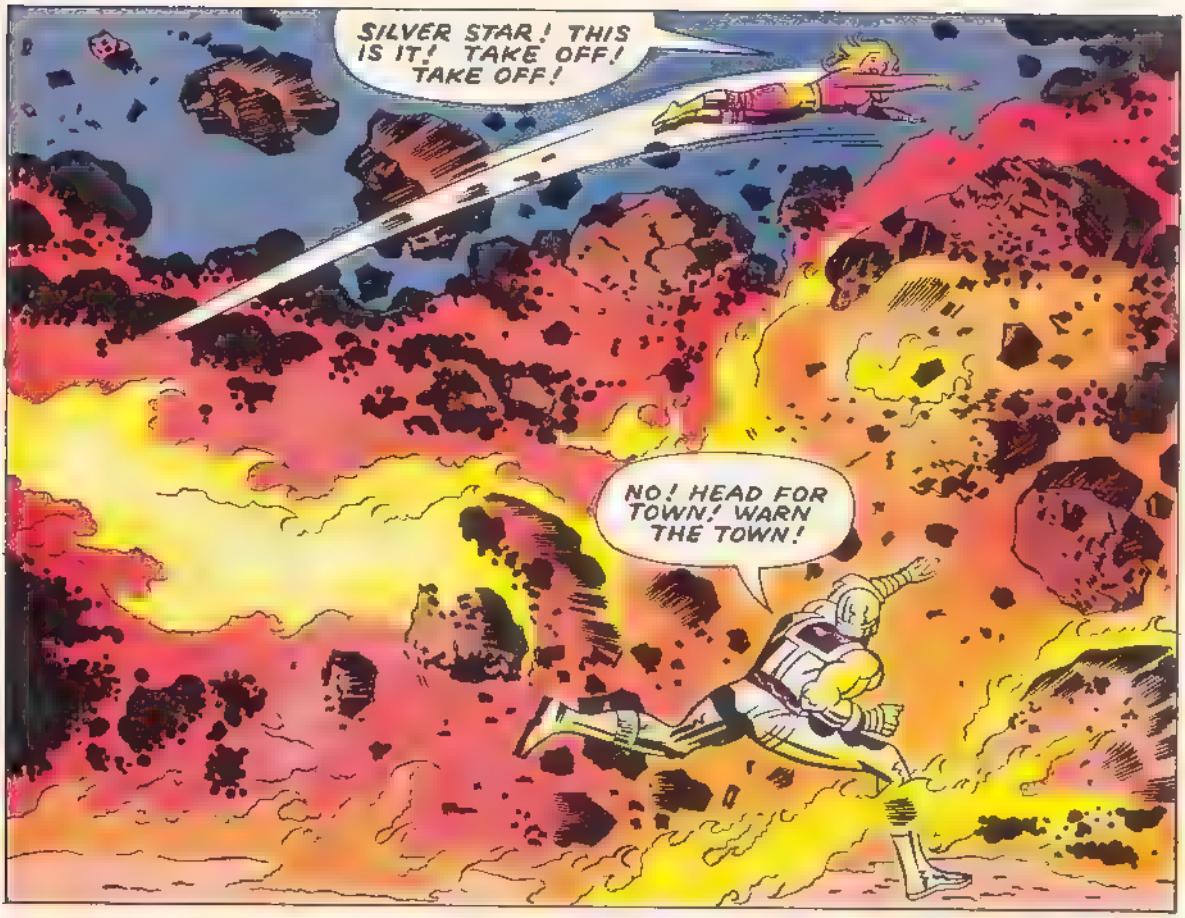
THAT WAS MY SON'S VOICE, YOU JUST HEARD, MISTER WALKER! IT WAS NO TRICK, I ASSURE YOU!

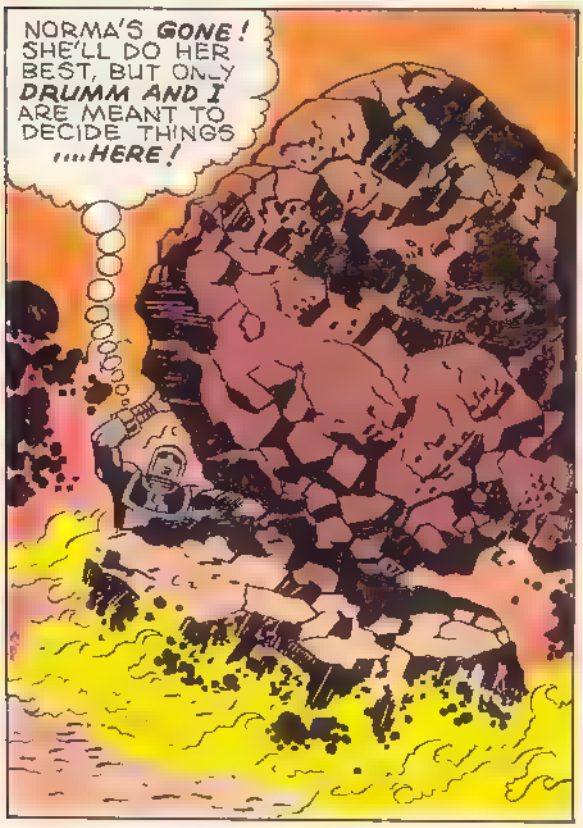

HOWEVER, IF WE LIVE LONG ENOUGH, I SHALL EXPLAIN THE ABILITY OF "HOMO GENETICUS" TO BUILD ATOMIC "AREAS" BARRED TO US!!

THIS IS WALKER. THAT'S RIGHT. PULL ORDER 5214 OUT OF THE FILE.... AND ACTIVATE IT!
YES, THIS IS FOR REAL! NO, THE REDS HAVEN'T LANDED!
YOU HEARD ME! SCRAMBLE STRIKE FORCES 245, 688, 71 AND 39 FOR STARTERS.
TREGASKIS, DO AS I SAY! THE U.F.O.'S ARE PLYING THEIR OWN GALAXIES. ALL FOREIGN NUCLEAR SUBMARINES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR, AND EVERY KNOWN TERRORIST IS SNUG IN HIS OR HER HIDEOUT!!!
SEE HERE! I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR CURIOSITY AND ALARM, AND....
NO! NO! NO! CUT IT, WILL YOU?!
ALL RIGHT, TREGASKIS, HANG ON TO YOUR BIBLE! YES....!! WOULD YOU BELIEVE.... THE ANGEL OF DEATH?!!?


SKKTCHAAM!
WE'VE BROKEN FREE OF DRUMM'S "MATTER SHELTER"! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE BACK IN THE U.S.A.?
I-I PROMISE TO PAY MY FULL SHARE OF TAXES ....AND EAT APPLE PIE TILL IT HURTS!
YOU'LL DO MORE THAN THAT!
CRAWLING WITH SUGGESTIONS, ARE YOU....?
WHY NOT? WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON....NOW, TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT.
OUR KIDS, "MACHO MAN"! THEY'RE GOING TO BE "WORLD BEATERS"!

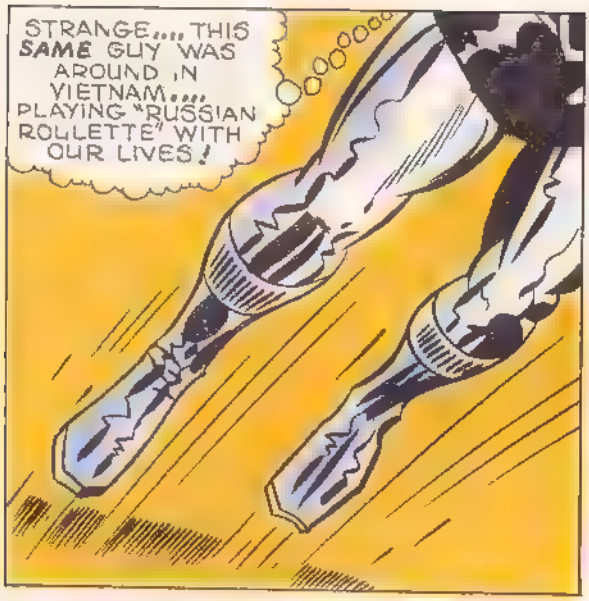
NORMA....
I-I DON'T CARE WHAT THE ODDS ARE! WE CAN PERSEVERE.... EVEN AGAINST A POWERFUL "CRAZY" LIKE DRUMM!
I WANT TO SAY IT WHILE THERE'S STILL TIME, HONEY.... I LOVE YOU, NORMA RICHMOND!
SAY! HOMO GENETICUS HAS NO GUIDELINES FOR THIS SORT OF THING. KNOW THAT?
THAT'S OKAY.... LET'S.... START FROM.... SQUARE ....ONE....
YEAH....
THEN WE CAN FIND OUT WHAT...."SQUARE TWO" IS ALL ABOUT....
YEAH-H....
OR WHY IT'S SUDDENLY GROWING.... DARK!
THE DARK ANGEL....
THE OTHER NAME FOR THE ANGEL OF DEATH!

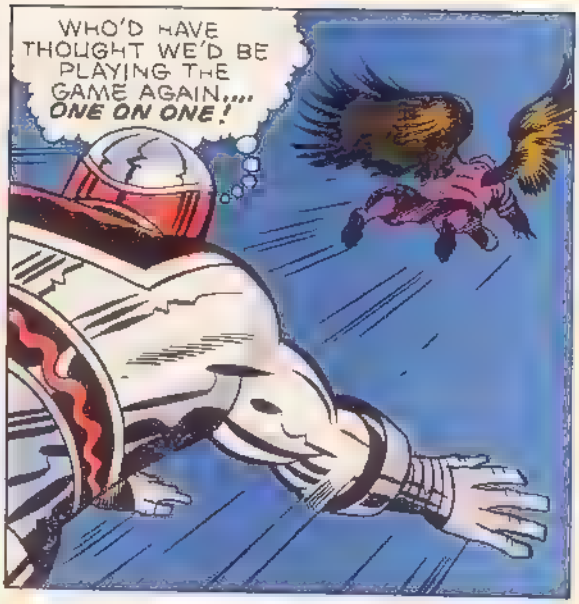

SILVER STAR! THIS IS IT! TAKE OFF! TAKE OFF!
NO! HEAD FOR TOWN! WARN THE TOWN!

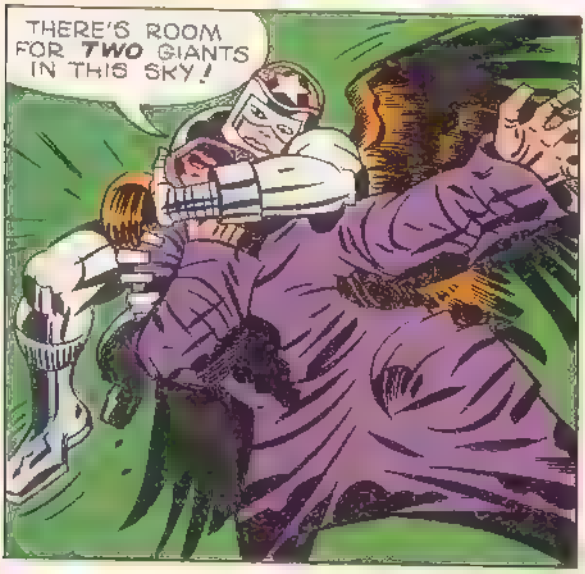

NORMA'S GONE! SHE'LL DO HER BEST, BUT ONLY DRUMM AND I ARE MEANT TO DECIDE THINGS ....HERE!

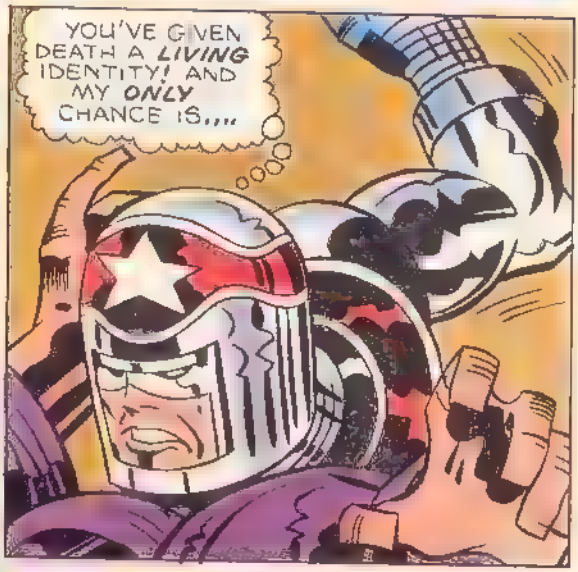
SKKSSHH!
DAMN!

A WORLD THREATENED IS A SUBJECTIVE CHALLENGE... A WORLD STERILIZED IS A TERRIFYING REALITY!!
T-THAT'S NO LONGER DARKSEID! I-IT'S THE REAL THING!!
BUT I CAN'T ALLOW MY FATHER'S UNSELFISH WORK TO CULMINATE IN THE MASS DEATH HE SOUGHT TO AVOID!
I'VE GOT TO TAKE ON THE ANGEL OF DEATH ....AND WIN!!!

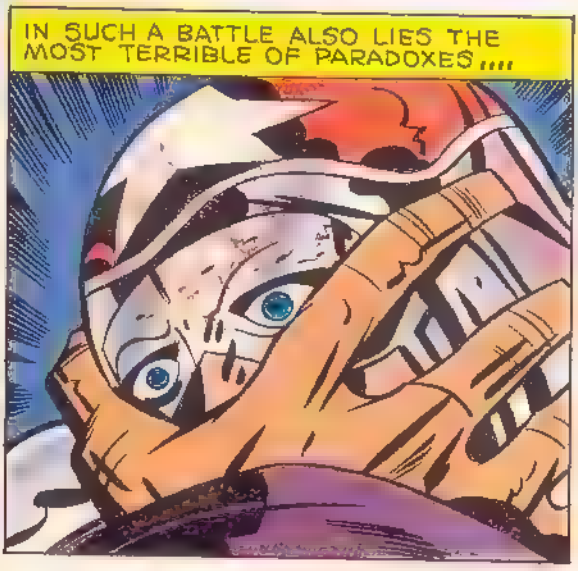

STRANGE.... THIS SAME GUY WAS AROUND IN VIETNAM.... PLAYING "RUSSIAN ROULETTE" WITH OUR LIVES!


WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT WE'D BE PLAYING THE GAME AGAIN.... ONE ON ONE!


THERE'S ROOM FOR TWO GIANTS IN THIS SKY!

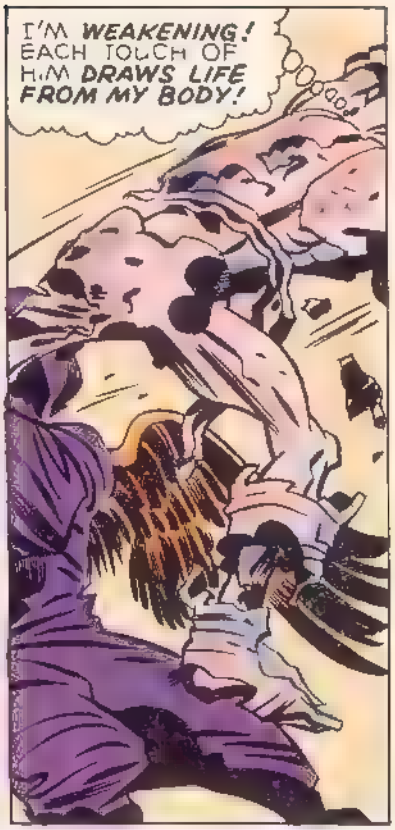

YOU'VE GIVEN DEATH A LIVING IDENTITY! AND MY ONLY CHANCE IS....

.... TO FIND.... A WAY ....TO REVERSE.... THE PROCESS!

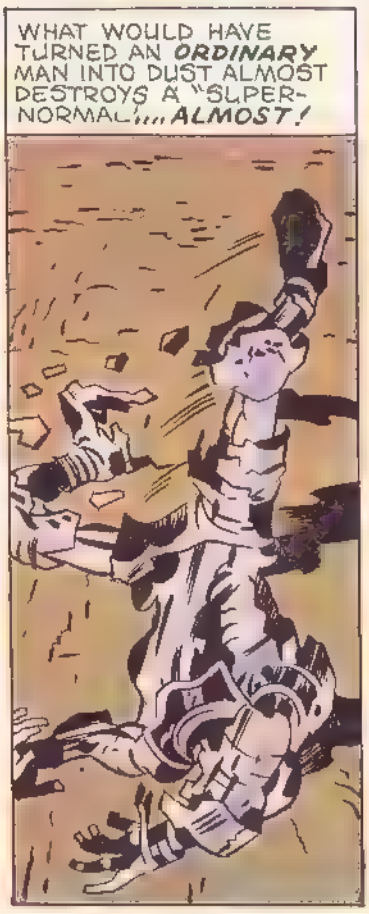

IN SUCH A BATTLE ALSO LIES THE MOST TERRIBLE OF PARADOXES....

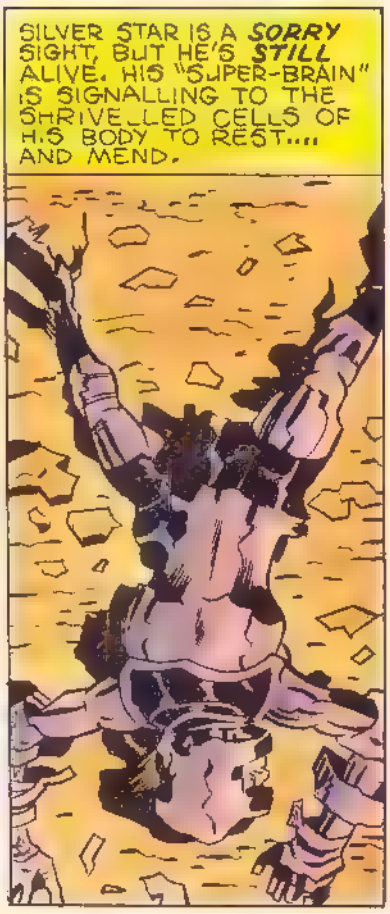
....THAT INTENSE AND CLOSE CONTACT WITH DEATH....
NO!

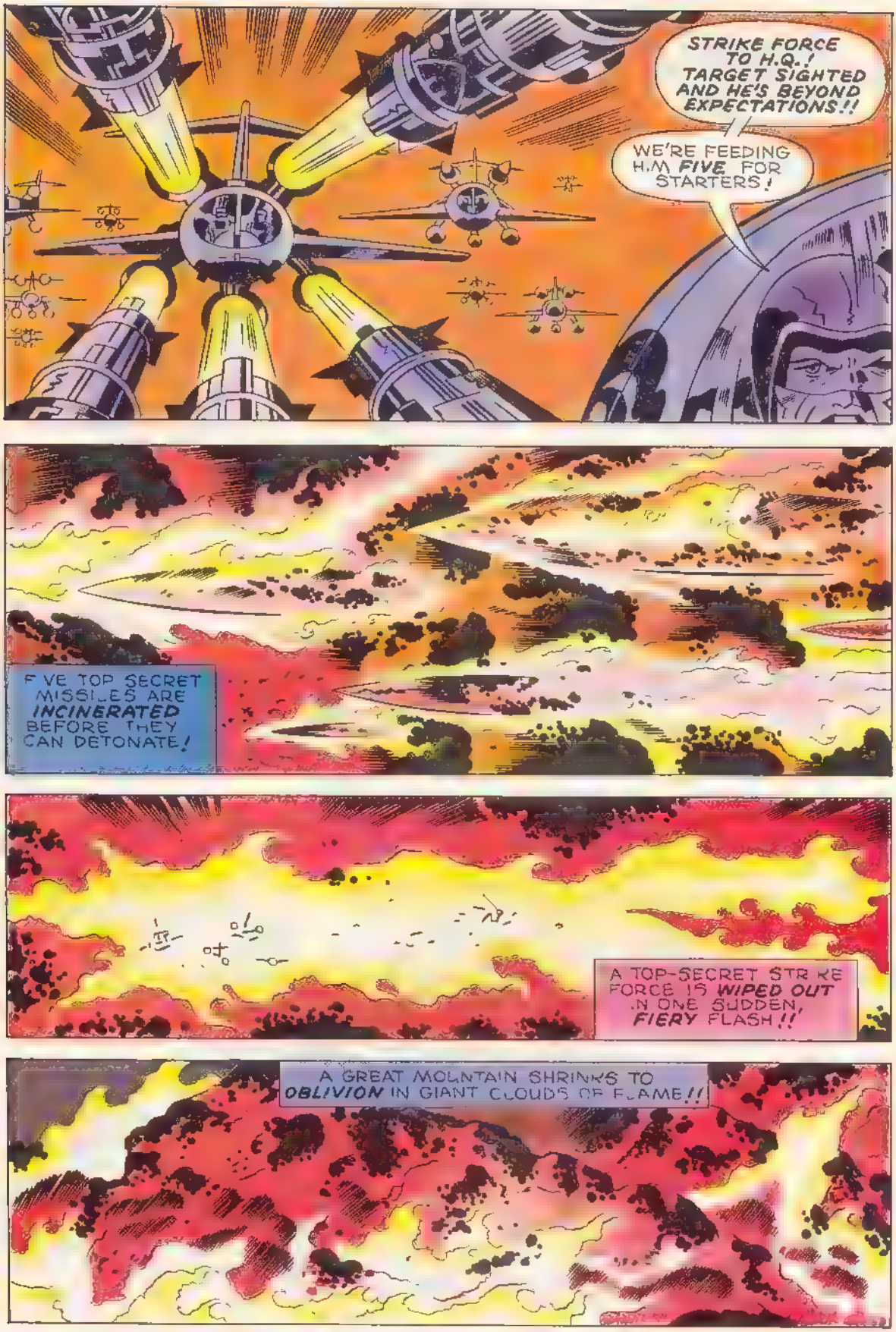
....MUST ALSO INCREASE THE CORRUPTION OF ITS GRASP UPON YOUR LIFE.
NO! NO! NO!


I'M WEAKENING! EACH TOUCH OF HIM DRAWS LIFE FROM MY BODY!

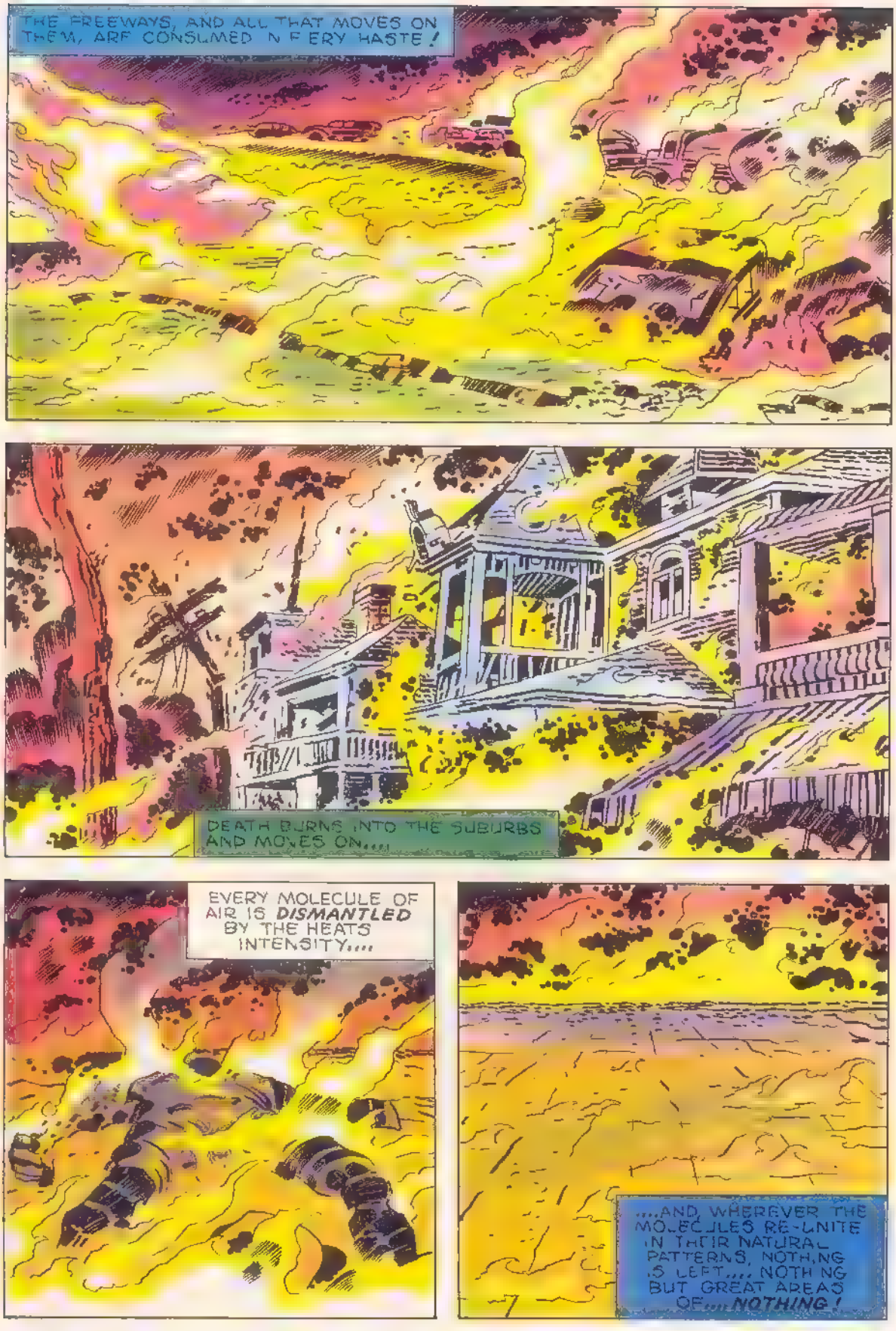
CRUMP!!


WHAT WOULD HAVE TURNED AN ORDINARY MAN INTO DUST ALMOST DESTROYS A "SUPER-NORMAL".... ALMOST!

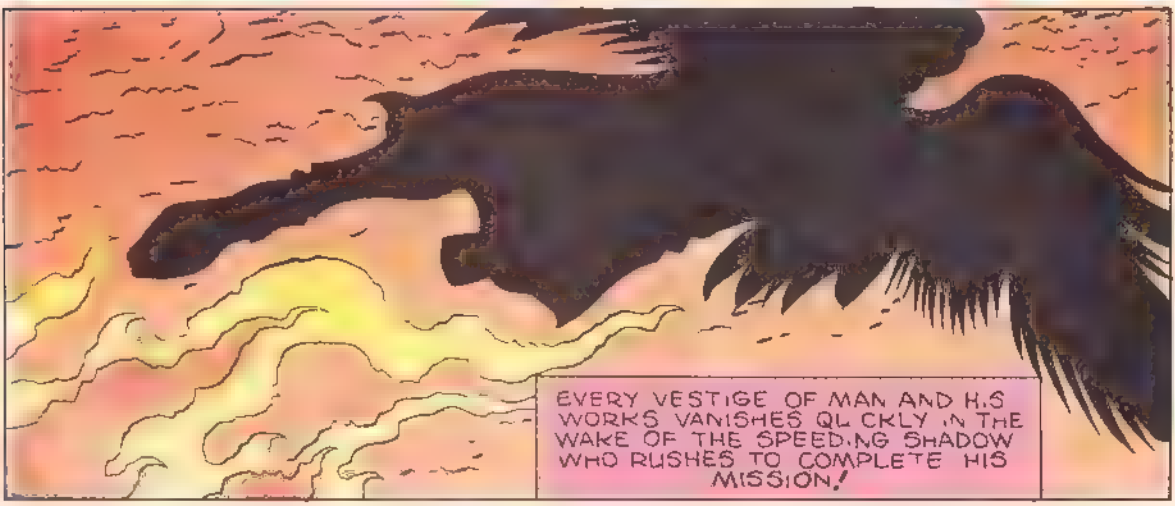

SILVER STAR IS A SORRY SIGHT, BUT HE'S STILL ALIVE. HIS "SUPER-BRAIN" IS SIGNALLING TO THE SHRIVELLED CELLS OF HIS BODY TO REST.... AND MEND.

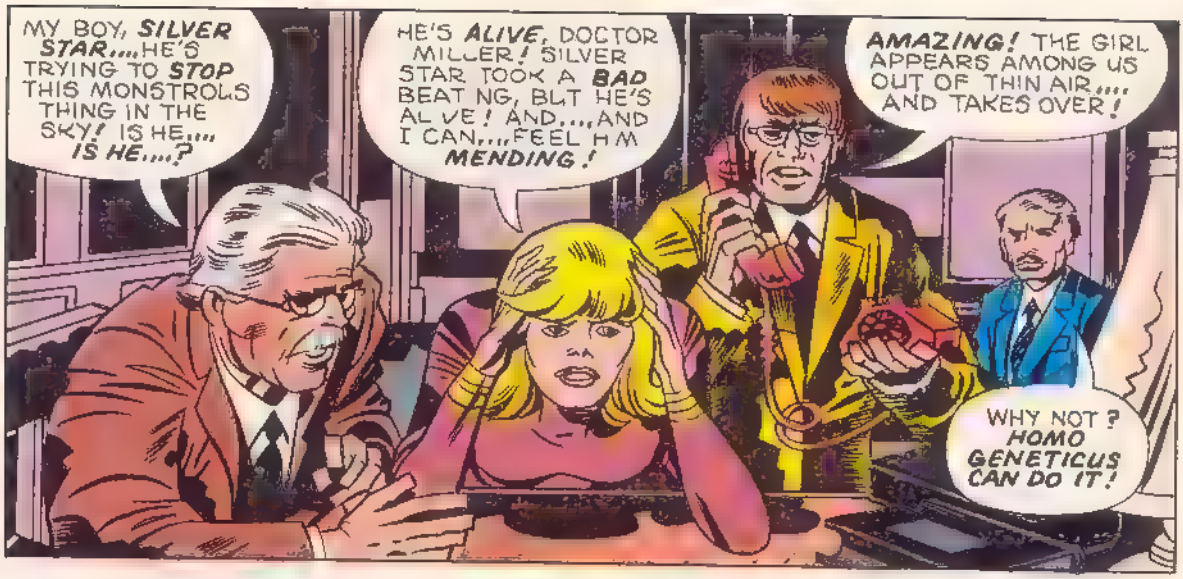

STRIKE FORCE TO H.Q.! TARGET SIGHTED AND HE'S BEYOND EXPECTATIONS!!
WE'RE FEEDING H.M FIVE FOR STARTERS!
FIVE TOP SECRET MISSILES ARE INCINERATED BEFORE THEY CAN DETONATE!
A TOP-SECRET STRIKE FORCE IS WIPED OUT IN ONE SUDDEN, FIERY FLASH!!
A GREAT MOUNTAIN SHRINKS TO OBLIVION IN GIANT CLOUDS OF FLAME!!

AS STERILITY STRIKES THE VAST AREAS BENEATH HIM.... THE ONRUSH OF DEATH GAINS SPEED!!! HIS SENSES REACH OUT TO SAVOR THE TEEMING LIFE OF THE CITY LOOMING IN HIS PATH....


THE FREEWAYS, AND ALL THAT MOVES ON THEM, ARE CONSUMED IN FERY HASTE!
DEATH BURNS INTO THE SUBURBS AND MOVES ON....
EVERY MOLECULE OF AIR IS DISMANTLED BY THE HEATS INTENSITY....
....AND, WHEREVER THE MOLECULES RE-UNITE IN THEIR NATURAL PATTERNS, NOTHING IS LEFT.... NOTHING BUT GREAT AREAS OF.... NOTHING!

THE SCORCHING WASTELAND MOVES INSIDIOUSLY INTO THE CITY.... MELTING... DISSOLVING CONCRETE GIANTS....AND THEIR BUILDERS.


EVERY VESTIGE OF MAN AND HIS WORKS VANISHES QUICKLY IN THE WAKE OF THE SPEEDING SHADOW WHO RUSHES TO COMPLETE HIS MISSION!


MY BOY, SILVER STAR....HE'S TRYING TO STOP THIS MONSTROUS THING IN THE SKY! IS HE.... IS HE....?
HE'S ALIVE, DOCTOR MILLER! SILVER STAR TOOK A BAD BEAT NG, BUT HE'S AL VE! AND....AND I CAN....FEEL H M MENDING!
AMAZING! THE GIRL APPEARS AMONG US OUT OF THIN AIR.... AND TAKES OVER!
WHY NOT? HOMO GENETICUS CAN DO IT!

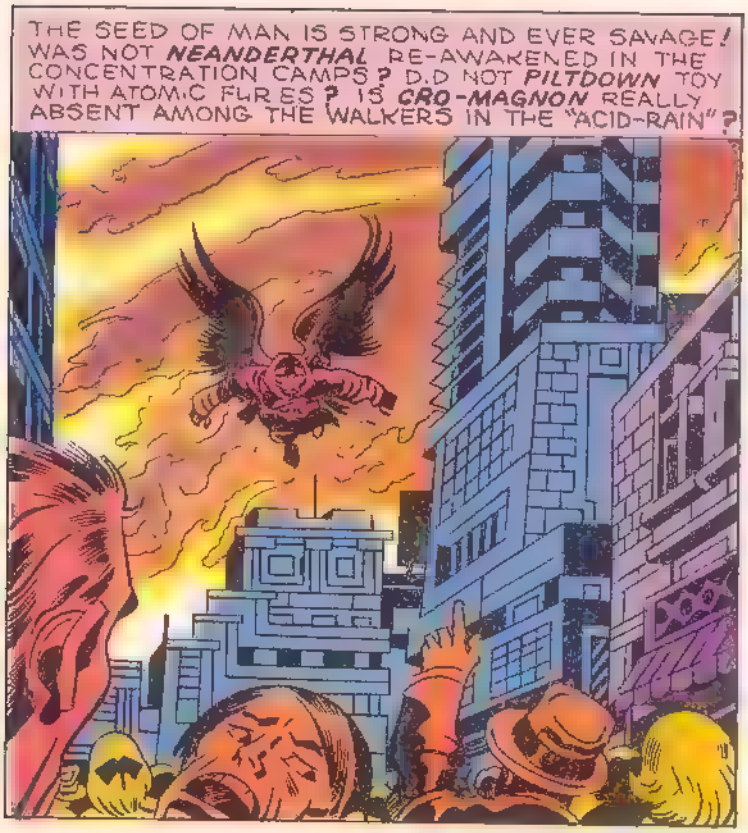
SILVER STAR IS WARNING US... "MAKE NO CONTACT WITH THE THING"! HE'S TELLING US NOT TO TANGLE WITH IT!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS! "G-7" HAVE YOU FIRED OUR ORBITING LASERS?

THEY CAN'T MAKE CONTACT! THEY "FLASH-OUT" ON CONTACT! IS THAT WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO TELL THE PRESIDENT? THAT WE CAN'T COPE WITH THIS SITUATION?!

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! OUR SUPER-ARSENAL CAN'T NAIL THAT TH NG!
BELIEVE IT!

HAMMER! I'M LINKED TO THE GOVERNMENT! YOU'RE LINKED TO THIS "GENET CUS" STUFF.... GIVE ME ANSWERS!!
PRAY!

THEN, YOU THREE WILL BE INTERESTED TO LEARN THAT THE ANGEL OF DEATH IS BARRELING IN ON REDLANDS CITY.... POPULATION TEN MILLION!


THE SEED OF MAN IS STRONG AND EVER SAVAGE! WAS NOT *NEANDERTHAL* RE-AWAKENED IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS? D.D NOT *PILTDOWN* TOY WITH ATOMIC FURES? IS *CRO-MAGNON* REALLY ABSENT AMONG THE WALKERS IN THE "ACID-RAIN"?

HOW FAR HAS THE ANGEL OF DEATH GONE BEYOND GENETICUS AND SAPIENS? HE EYES THE CROWDS BELOW W TH DISDA N....

....HIS JAWS OPEN WIDE TO RELEASE THE HOT BREATH OF HOLOCAUST....
AAAA!

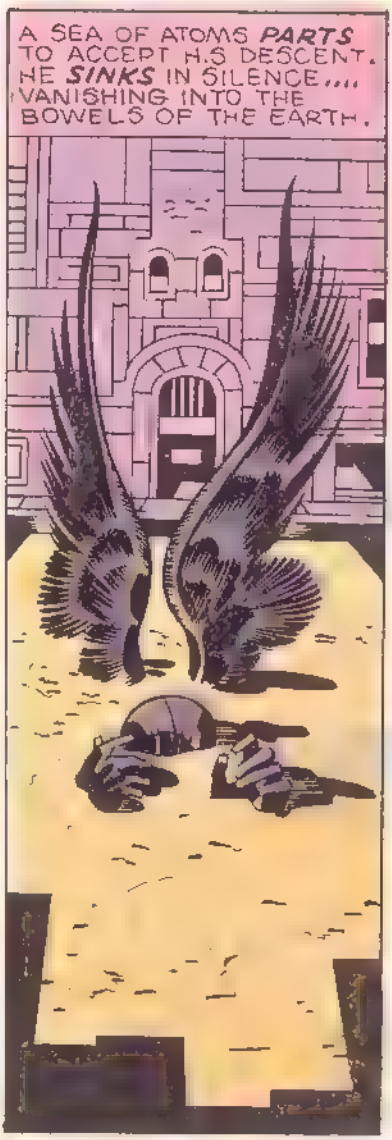
....BUT, THIS TIME, THE GROUND BELOW REPLIES W TH A *SHATTERING* JO .T!! .T STRIKES THE SLAYER IN THE SKY AND *PENETRATES* H.S BRAIN WITH THE "IMPOSSIBLE"! THE "RRATIONAL"! ....A *MILLION FACES OF DARIUS DRUMM*!!

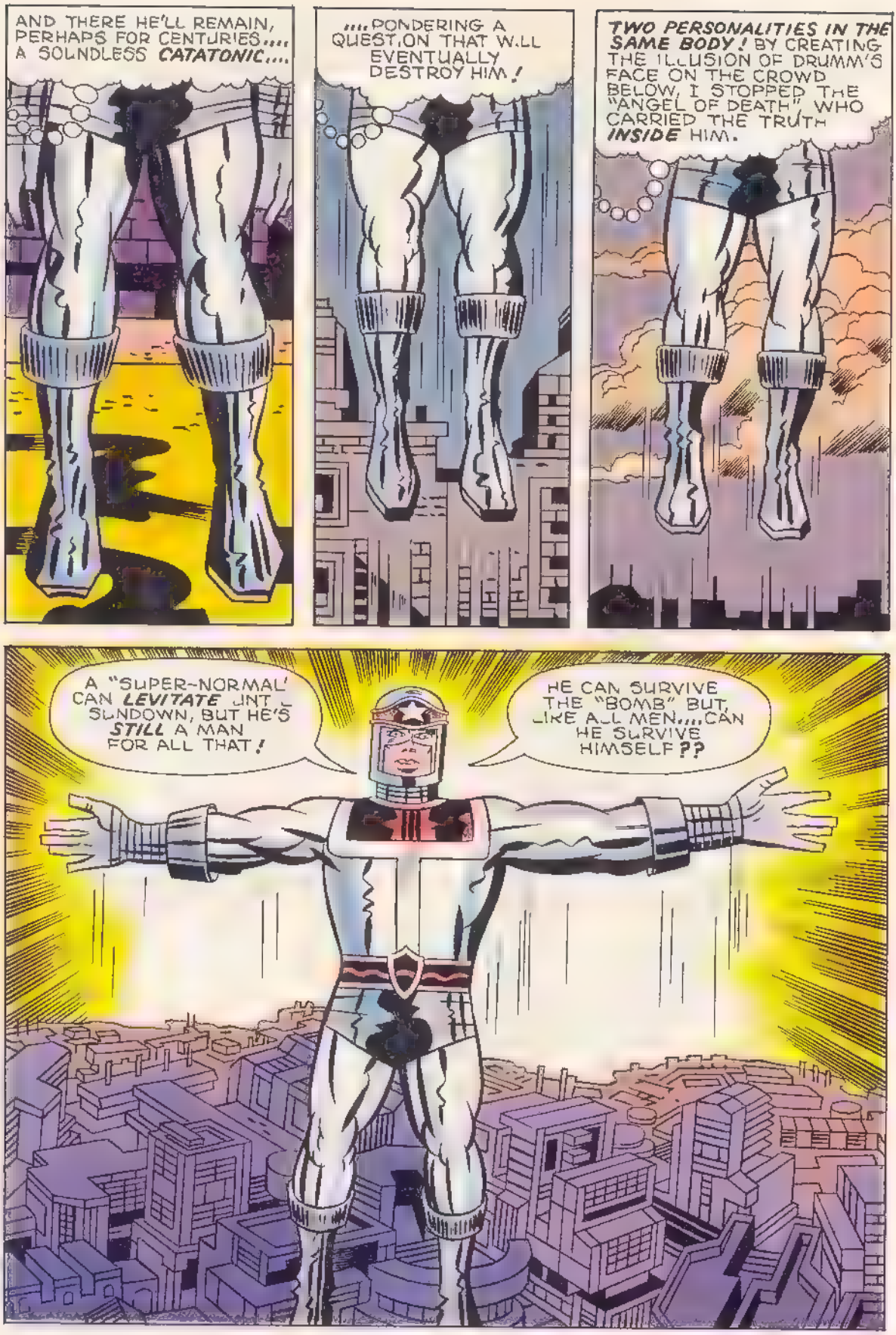
THE ANGEL OF DEATH ALMOST REELS WITH THE PAIN OF RESURRECTED PERSONALITY! HE MUST SCOURGE AND ERASE.... BUT HE CANNOT KILL DRUMM!!

THE ULTIMATE DILEMMA TEARS AT THE ROOTS OF HIS FUNCTION! HE MUST KILL DRUMM.... BUT HE CANNOT KILL DRUMM!!

FROTH AND FURY CHANGES NOTHING! THE FACE OF DEATH CONTORTS TO ITS LIMIT! HIS ROARS SUBSIDE.... HIS EMOTIONS BEGIN TO FADE AND DIE.

HE CANNOT KILL DARIUS DRUMM.... BECAUSE HE IS DARIUS DRUMM!


A SEA OF ATOMS PARTS TO ACCEPT HIS DESCENT. HE SINKS IN SILENCE.... VANISHING INTO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH.


AND THERE HE'LL REMAIN, PERHAPS FOR CENTURIES.... A SOULDLESS CATATONIC....
....PONDERING A QUESTION THAT WILL EVENTUALLY DESTROY HIM!
TWO PERSONALITIES IN THE SAME BODY! BY CREATING THE ILLUSION OF DRUMM'S FACE ON THE CROWD BELOW, I STOPPED THE "ANGEL OF DEATH" WHO CARRIED THE TRUTH INSIDE HIM.
A "SUPER-NORMAL" CAN LEVITATE JUST SUNDOWN, BUT HE'S STILL A MAN FOR ALL THAT!
HE CAN SURVIVE THE "BOMB" BUT, LIKE ALL MEN....CAN HE SURVIVE HIMSELF??

JUST AS PRINCE SVEN, JON AND TOMGAR ARE ABOUT TO RESCUE THEIR IMPRISONED FRIEND, ERIK, FROM THE CLUTCHES OF SVEN'S EVIL UNCLE DONAK, THEY TOO ARE CAPTURED. CAPTURED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT DONAK PLANS TO MURDER SVEN'S FATHER THE KING IN LESS THAN ONE HOUR. WITH SO LITTLE TIME REMAINING, WHAT HOPE CAN THERE BE FOR THE---
BAST OF THE
VIKING HEROES
DAMN! IF ONLY THESE BARS WOULD LOOSEN!
CALM YOURSELF, SVEN! OUR ENERGY WILL BE NEEDED TO ESCAPE!
IF WE CAN ESCAPE, TOMGAR!
JON, CAN YOU GET US OUT OF HERE?
NEED YOU ASK?
EDITED BY DAVID SCROGGY
PLOTTED & DRAWN BY MICHAEL THIBODEAUX
WRITTEN BY DAVID SCHWARTZ
INKED BY DAERICK GROSS
LETTERED BY PALLE JENSEN
COLORED BY DARYL ISAACS

CONCEALED IN MY BELT, I CARRY THESE TOOLS!! THIS LOCK PICK, WHICH DOES US LITTLE GOOD AS LONG AS THE LOCK IS OUTSIDE OUR CELL!
NEXT I HAVE THESE SMOKE PRODUCING DISCS! USELESS AS LONG AS WE ARE TRAPPED IN HERE!
ENOUGH TALK! MY FATHER'S TIME GROWS SHORT!
THIS POTION IS THE ANSWER; THE WIZARD ZON CALLS IT OIL OF VITRIOL---
BEFORE JON CAN CONTINUE, A GUARD APPROACHES!
QUIET DOWN IN THERE! YOU'D BE WISE TO CONSERVE YOUR BREATH!
WHILE YOU STILL HAVE IT!
THAT'S RAKSILL! THE SCUM THAT TOOK SUCH PLEASURE IN BEATING ME!
--AND I WILL TAKE EVEN GREATER PLEASURE IN SNUF--FING OUT YOUR WORTHLESS LIFE!
--WHICH WILL BE DONE SLOWLY AND PAINFULLY!
WHY YOU--
NOW WE SHALL SEE WHICH ONE OF US HAS THE EARLIER DEMISE!!
GUARDS! GUARDS!
CAPTAIN RAKSILL! I'VE GOT HIS ARM!
THEN BREAK IT, QUICKLY!

SNAP!
NNNNNAAARRRGGGHH!!
DAMN!
WE CAN WAIT NO LONGER! JON GET US OUT OF HERE!
PREPARE FOR THESE HINGES TO DISSOLVE IMMEDIATELY!
ENOUGH TALK! DO IT!!
AND WITH THAT, JON UNLEASHES THE POWERFUL ACID!
--INSTANTLY DISSOLVING MOST OF THE METAL!--
--WHILE THE REST SIMPLY FALLS TO THE GROUND!
WITH THE HINGES GONE, ALL THAT IS LEFT IS THE LITTLE MATTER OF KICKING DOWN THE DOOR!
TOMGAR, I WILL LEAVE THAT HONOR TO YOU!
JON JUST GET OUT OF MY WAY---

CLINK!
WE ARE CAPTIVES NO LONGER!
SMACK!
CAPTAIN, I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT TOMGAR IS INVINCIBLE!
WE'LL LAY THOSE RUMORS TO REST!
ALONG WITH HIM!
KER-RASH!
ONE LOOK DEEP INTO TOMGAR'S EYES REVEALS THE SOUL OF A WARRIOR---
---WHO LIVES FOR HIS MOMENTS OF BATTLE!!
WHAM!

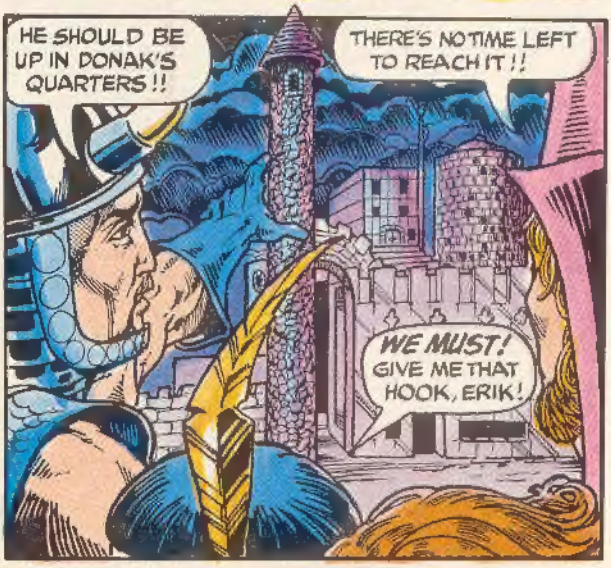
TOMGAR QUICKLY TAKES CONTROL OF THE FIGHT.
THIS IS HOW WE DEAL WITH TRAITORS! YOU'LL DO WELL TO REMEMBER IT, IF YOU WAKE UP!!
A GUARD HIDDEN IN THE SHADOWS, SLIPS UPON TOMGAR FROM BEHIND---
---A MOVE HE'LL LONG REGRET!
KA-WHAM!
FINALLY, THE BATTLE WINDS DOWN TO ERIK AND RAKSILL.
STAND BACK, TOMGAR--
RAKSILL IS MINE!!
STRONG WORDS FROM A MAN BOTH CRIPPLED AND DEFENSELESS!
YOU MAY HAVE BROKEN MY ARM, BUT I AM NEVER DEFENSELESS!
IT MATTERS LITTLE: FOR NOW YOU WILL DIE!
BUT BEFORE RAKSILL CAN MAKE GOOD HIS THREAT---

ERIK'S WEAPON CUTS DEEP--- AND IT IS RAKSILL WHO DIES!
SLICE!

ERIK STANDS STUNNED--- HAVING NEVER BEFORE DE-LIVERED A DEATH-DEALING BLOW!
YOUR FALLEN FOE DESERVES NO GRIEF, ERIK!
TOMGAR IS RIGHT, MY FRIEND. BUT WHERE IS JON?

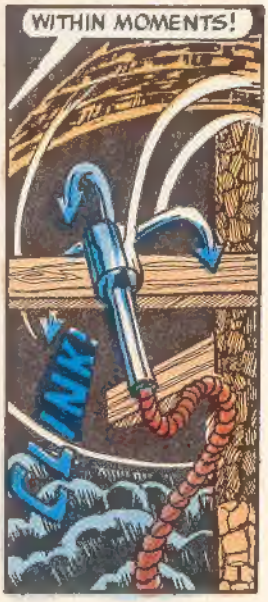
IN HERE PREPARING MY DEFENSES. BUT WHERE HAVE OUR OPPONENTS GONE?
WE HAVE VANQUISHED THEM! THEY WOULD HAVE DIED OF OLD AGE BEFORE YOUR TRICKS WERE READY!

PRINCE SVEN LEADS THE WAY TO THE KING'S CASTLE.
WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME! WE MUST SAVE MY FATHER!


HE SHOULD BE UP IN DONAK'S QUARTERS!!
THERE'S NO TIME LEFT TO REACH IT!!
WE MUST! GIVE ME THAT HOOK, ERIK!

THE HOOK?
WHAT FOR?

I'VE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN--
BUT WE SHOULD BE UP THERE---


WITHIN MOMENTS!
CLINK!

ONCE THE ROPE IS SECURED, THEY IMMEDIATELY SCALE THE WALL!
DAMN!! IT'S STARTING TO RAIN--AT LEAST THINGS CAN'T GET ANY WORSE!
YES THEY CAN-- THE WAY IS BARRED!
HOLD ON, ERIK, I'VE GOT YOU!
OH, THE SHAME OF IT ALL---
AS PRINCE SVEN APPROACHES THE WINDOW, A HORRIFYING SCENE MEETS HIS EYES!
NO!
SVEN WATCHES HELPLESSLY AS THE DEED IS DONE!!
NO!
DONAK!! YOU WILL PAY-- BY THE GODS, YOU WILL PAY!!
I SWEAR IT!
MAKE NO THREATS TO ME, SVEN! FOR HOWEVER IT MAY GRIEVE YOU---
I AM NOW YOUR LIEGE!
SUDDENLY---
THIS CHARADE HAS GONE ON FAR ENOUGH!! GUARDS ENTER!!
WHAT?!! YOU'RE ALIVE?!
THE KING APPROACHES--
YES, DONAK! HAD YOU EXAMINED YOUR INTENDED VICTIM, YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND HIM TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN A DUMMY MADE OF STRAW!
BUT--
ENOUGH!!! YOU HAVE ALWAYS HAD YOUR EYE ON MY THRONE! I JUST COULD NOT BELIEVE YOU WOULD STOOP THIS LOW!

GUARDS--TAKE HIM AWAY!!
FATHER--YOU KNEW?
YES, MY SON!
I HEARD WHISPERS OF DONAK'S PLAN, BUT I HAD TO BE CERTAIN!
IT TRULY WARMS MY SOUL THAT YOU WERE ALL SO CONCERNED! MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO YOU!!
NOW I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA FOR YOU BOYS TO COME IN OUT OF THE RAIN!
EXACTLY MY SENTIMENTS!
IF ONLY THESE BARS WERE REMOVABLE!
I GUESS THE ONLY WAY DOWN IS THE WAY WE CAME UP!
I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THAT!!
NEXT: OUR SLIGHTLY DRENCHED HEROES DRY OFF IN TIME TO DETERMINE WHO IS... THE WINNER!!

HATE, GREED, BARBARISM, MERCHANDISED MURDER.... MUMMIFIED MORALITY!

ALL THESE CHARGES, AND MORE, HAVE I JUDGED YOU BY! I, AS YOUR JUDGE, ROSE IN YOUR MIDST.... A WITNESS TO THIS UNCHANGED CORRUPTON!

IF THAT ISN'T AN "EXIT" CUE, THEN I'VE NEVER HEARD ONE!

BUT, WE ARE THE CLEANSED! YOUR FAITHFUL!

OUR AGONIES .... WE BORE THEM AS YOU SAID!

CREATED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY

INKED AND LETTERED BY D. BRUCE BERRY

COLORED BY TOM LUTH